

Serial No. : 10/762,793
Filed : January 22, 2004

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the examiner indicated that the prosecution in the instant case has been re-opened in view of the panel decision in the pre-appealed conference. In the Office Action, the examiner rejected Claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,204), a newly cited prior art reference (hereafter "cited Chu et al. reference"). Accordingly, the applicant has amended Claims 1 and 16 to more clearly differentiate the present invention from the technologies disclosed by the cited Chu et al. reference.

More specifically, in the amendment of independent Claims 1 and 16, the applicant has added the feature of "retrieving information on business hours of a POI (Point of Interest) at the destination expressed by the local time". The substantially the same feature has been recited in original Claims 3 and 18, respectively. The applicant has now canceled Claims 3 and 18. The added feature is supported by the original disclosure of the instant application, for example, at page 21, lines 7-25 with reference to the flow chart of Figure 10 showing the step of obtaining the business hours of POI, and also from page 26, line 1 to page 27, line 19 with reference to Figures 15A-15D and 16A-16D showing the display examples of navigation system including information on business hours of POIs.

The cited chu et al. reference discloses a structure of a time board for dynamically displaying the universal time. The time

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board is structured to be adaptable to hang on the wall of lounge of an airport, a main railroad station hall, a passenger terminal of a harbor, the office of tele-communication and the classroom of a school. The time board is comprised of a flat rectangular board having front panel on which a world map of Mercator Equator Projection is attached containing every country and region of the world which are covered by 24 time zones, each of the time zone occupies 15 degrees longitudes representing an hour. A local time column displays the hour, minute and second of the local time and works in concert with hours displayed in the time zones. The world map may be variable to facilitate every country or regions have equal chance to be centered in the map.

Although the cited Chu et al. reference discloses the idea of obtaining the local time of a desired country or a region, it does not show any idea of retrieving the information regarding the business hours of the POI (point of interest) at the destination expressed by the local time. In fact, the cited Chu et al. reference has no reference to a POI (point of interest) let alone business hours of a POI. In the Office Action, however, the examiner stated that the feature of original Claim 3 is disclosed by the cited Chu et al. reference. The applicant believes that the examiner has made such a determination without even checking the actual disclosure in the cited Chu et al. reference. In fact, in the office action at page 3, at the last part of the comments regarding Claim 3, the examiner specified the point "column 9,

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lines 55-67; fig. 1J" of the cited Chu et al. reference. However, there is no lines 55-67 in column 9 or fig. 1J in the cited Chu et al. reference. Thus, it is clear that the determination by the examiner is baseless and was made in error.

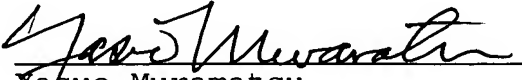
As discussed above, the essential feature of the present invention is not shown or suggested by the cited Chu et al. reference, the applicant believes that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is no longer applicable to the present invention.

Under the circumstances, the applicant believes that the present application is in the condition for allowance, and the applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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